

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF VICTIM SERVICES

Vacancies: 2 Public Member Seats

Closing Date: March 31, 2015

Applications may be submitted to: Anne Litecky, State Victim Services Coordinator at ALitecky@goccp.state.md.us or via fax at (410) 837-6051.

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) is seeking two (2) Public members to serve on the Maryland State Board of Victim Services. Preference will be given to applicants who have experienced crime victimization or who have represented a crime victim.

MISSION

The State Board's mission is to ensure that all crime victims in the State of Maryland are treated with dignity and compassion through comprehensive victim services, support and programs. The purpose of the State Board is to develop a comprehensive and coordinated system of victim services delivery throughout the criminal justice process.

Roles and Responsibilities of a Service Provider Member

- Attend all scheduled monthly Board and certain committee meetings;
- Work cooperatively with the Executive Director of GOCCP, the Board Chair, and the Victim Services Coordinator on matters involving full Board activities;
- Work with various committees to assist with long range committee planning and implementation of activities and strategies;
- Collaborate and participate with State Board members year round and support State Board events during National Crime Victims' Rights Week;
- including but not limited to, initiatives, legislation, state policies and procedures;
- Complete tasks necessary to facilitate the full Board's decision-making and long-term strategic planning;
- Attend emergency meetings that may come up; and
- Serve the remainder of a five-year term, which one concludes on June 30, 2017 and the other on June 30, 2018. Members may opt to renew their five-year term.

Selection

- Applications are vetted through the State Board Nominations Committee and proceed to the Chair of the State Board of Victim Services in the form of a

recommendation to the Executive Director of GOCCP who provides final approval.

- The Public member seat should be appointed by April 30, 2015.

Qualifications for the Public Member

- An informed and dedicated individual with broad community perspectives, who will actively contribute to improving the lives of crime victims in the State of Maryland.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Board Membership

The original legislation established a 15 member board, which sought to draw upon the experiences of a broad number of individuals including crime victims, service providers, and representatives from various criminal justice related agencies. Two public member positions became available in 1995, and in 1996 the Board membership increased to a total of 22. Of these positions, 14 represent state agencies as provided by statute; the others are appointed by the Governor. Members of the Board serve 5 year terms.

Mission and Goals

Addressing the needs of crime victims through passage of victim oriented legislation began in the early 1980s in the State of Maryland. To strengthen and improve crime victim's rights, a Joint Resolution was passed in the Session of 1984 which created a Task Force to study this issue.

At the recommendation of the Task Force, the General Assembly enacted Guidelines for the treatment of crime victims and witnesses in 1986. In 1988, the State Board of Victim Services and the position of Victim Services Coordinator were created by the legislature for the purpose of monitoring, assessing, coordinating, and making recommendations concerning state and local efforts to assist victims of crime.

This endeavor recognized and acknowledged the unique and distinctive needs of crime victims. State and local laws, programs, and procedures must be continually updated to meet those needs.

For more information about the *Maryland State Board of Victim Services* go to:

<http://www.goccp.maryland.gov/victim/victim-service-board.php>.